

Resumé: This diploma paper discuss about development of the state system of the Byzantine Empire in context with many changes of the form and extension of its territory. Primary are analysed relations between basic powers of the state and changes of their positions. Basic powers are means emperor, army and Church. Secondary senate, *demos* and civil and military aristocracy.

First chapter talk about territory evolution and about changes of the foreign and political relations of the empire. It primary serves like a illustration of complicated standing of the empire and also many important changes of the territory and its ethnical structure of the state. These circumstances constituted a big problem for state administration.

Second chapter attend to development of the state administration with special intent on the “theme system”. Especially on its origins and downfall. Author also try to find context between decline and fall of the empire and administration of the state.

In the third chapter is analysed successional system of byzantine emperors, especially its negative aspects. Important is influence of this institute on the administration of the state, chiefly on stability and centralization or more precisely decentralization of the empire.

Fourth chapter closer treat about origins, development and importance of the “theme system”. It was reform of the administrative and military system of the Byzantine empire. This system helped to surmount social and economical crisis, halt arabic expansion and drive empire to new prosperity and political and military hegemony.

And finally, fifth chapter describe institute of the “stratotika ktemata”, byzantine home defence. Author analyse its origins, but also gradual decline in context with changes of society and army. Chapter also describe like some emperors attempted save this institut. But it was unsuccessful - “stratotika ktemata” were substituted by professional army and institute named “pronoia”.

Objective of this diploma paper was describe and make sense of causes of decline and fall of the once powerful Byzantine empire.

Seznam klíčových slov/ List of the key words:

- 1) Byzantská říše (en. Byzantine Empire)
- 2) themata (en. themata, themes)